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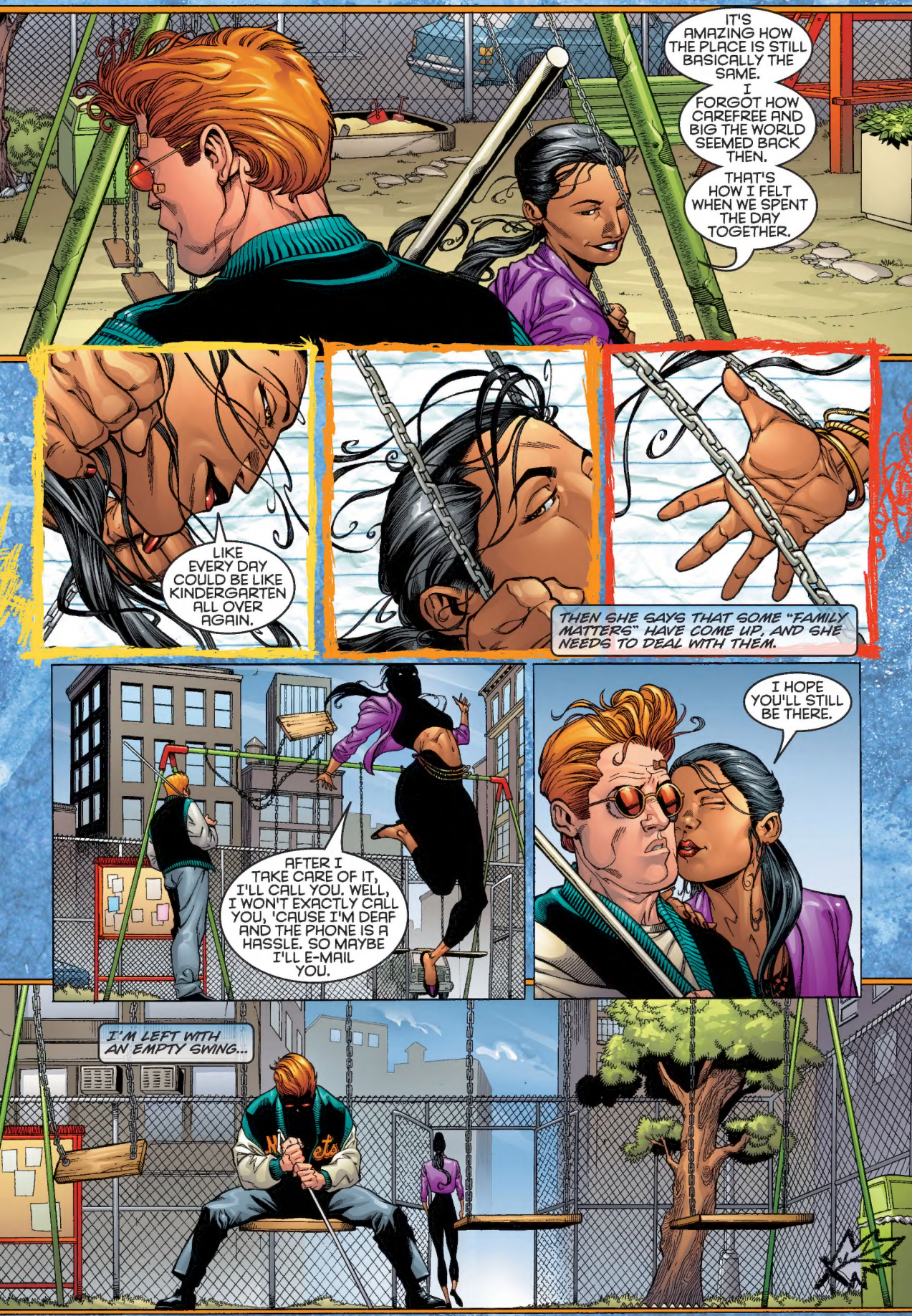
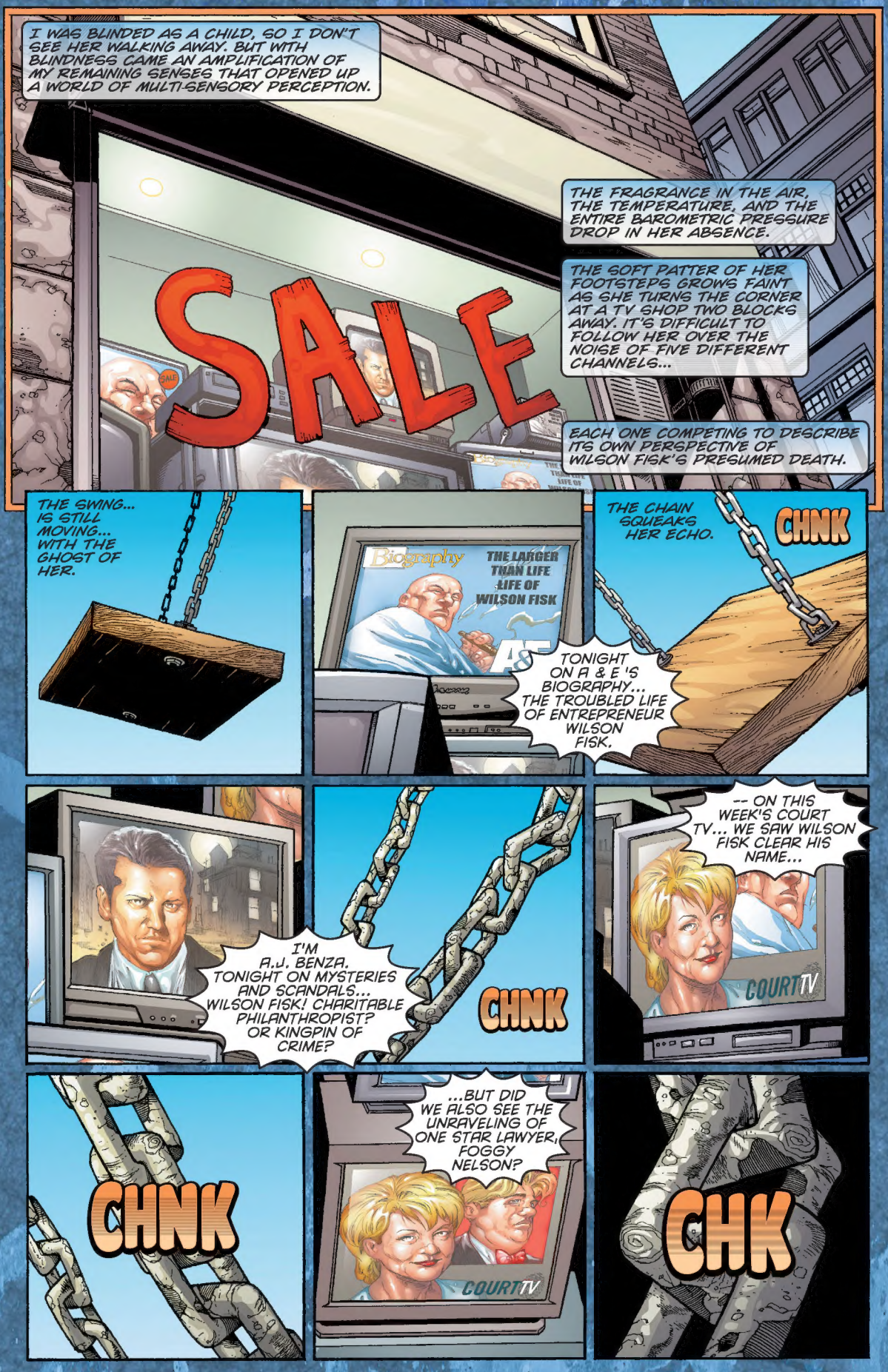
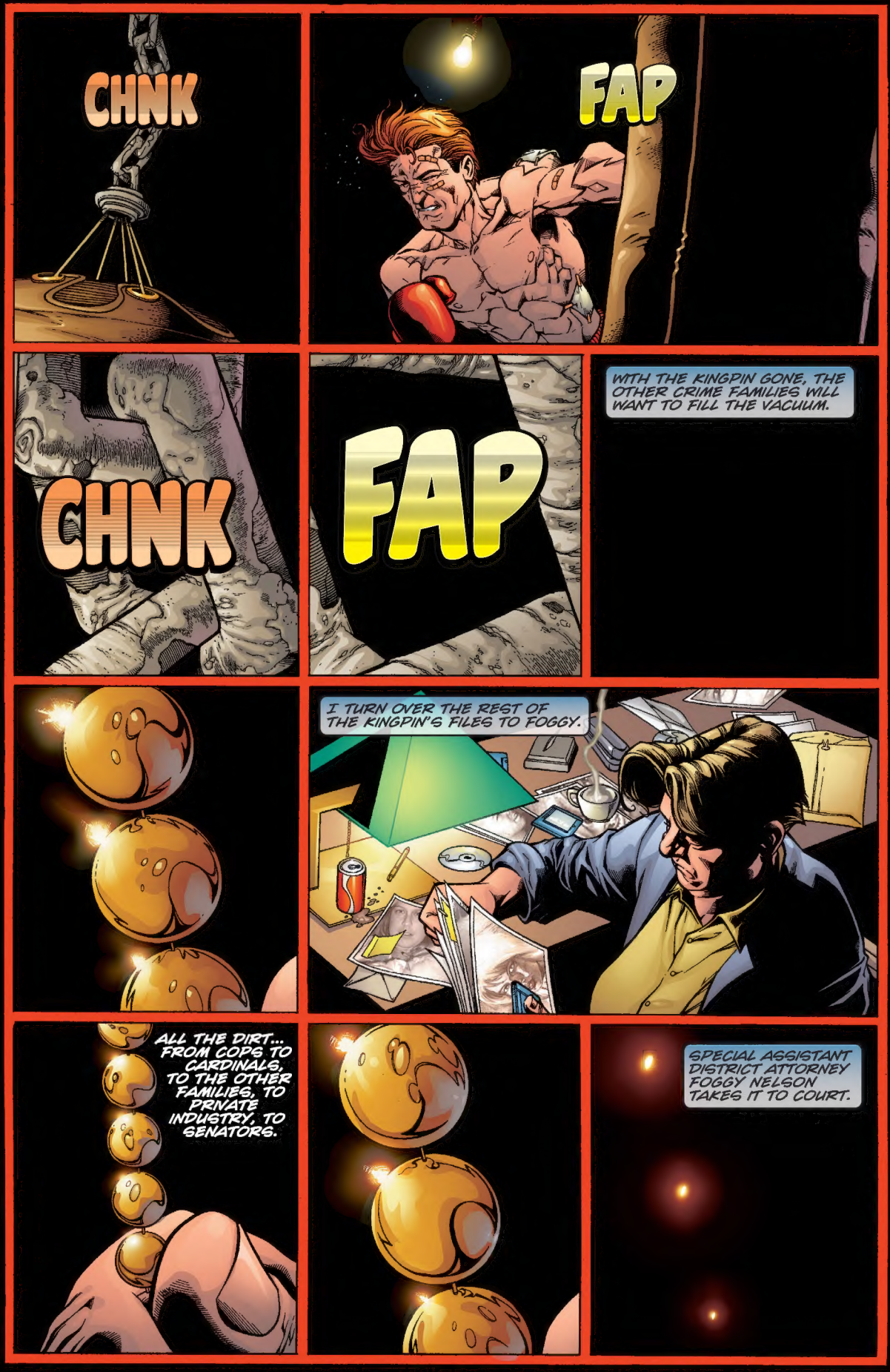
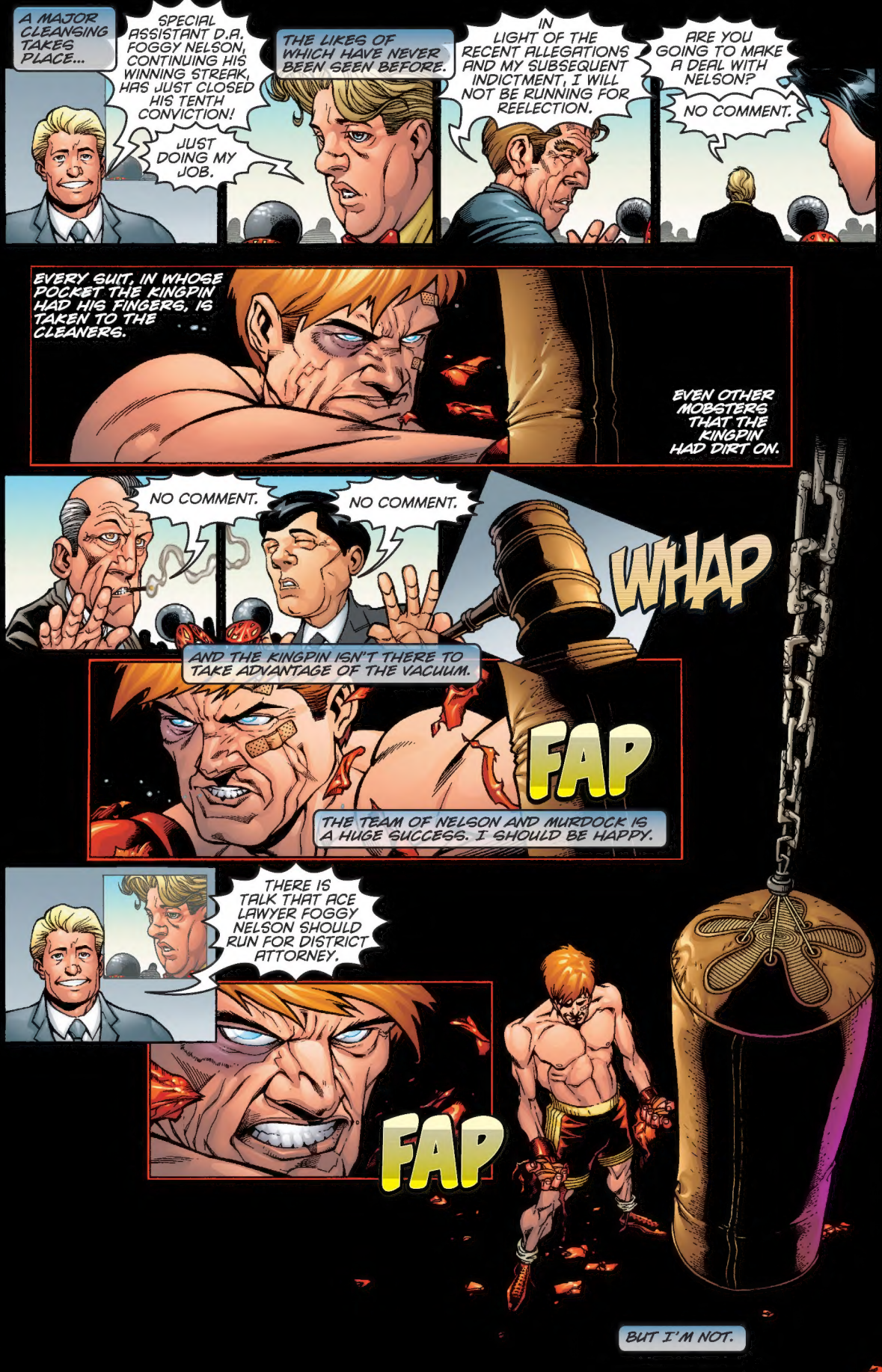
I WAKE UP TO THE DOORBELL. MAYA SAYS SHE NEEDS TO TALK.
I HAVE TO REMIND MYSELF THAT THIS WOMAN WITH WHOM I--AS LAWYER MATT MURDOCK--RECENTLY SPENT THE MOST WONDERFUL DAY, IS THE SAME WOMAN CALLED "ECHO" WHO LATER THAT EVENING NEARLY KILLED ME (AS DAREDEVIL).
WE GO FOR A WALK AND SHE LEADS ME TO THE SAME PARK WE FOUGHT AT.
MY FATHER USED TO TAKE ME TO THIS PARK WHEN I WAS LITTLE.
Higher, Daddy!
CARRS
SALE


IT'S AMAZING HOW THE PLACE IS STILL BASICALLY THE SAME.
I FORGOT HOW CAREFREE AND BIG THE WORLD SEEMED BACK THEN.
THAT'S HOW I FELT WHEN WE SPENT THE DAY TOGETHER.
LIKE EVERY DAY COULD BE LIKE KINDERGARTEN ALL OVER AGAIN.
THEN SHE SAYS THAT SOME "FAMILY MATTERS" HAVE COME UP, AND SHE NEEDS TO DEAL WITH THEM.
AFTER I TAKE CARE OF IT, I'LL CALL YOU. WELL, I WON'T EXACTLY CALL YOU, 'CAUSE I'M DEAF AND THE PHONE IS A HASSLE. SO MAYBE I'LL E-MAIL YOU.
I HOPE YOU'LL STILL BE THERE.
I'M LEFT WITH AN EMPTY SWING...


I WAS BLINDED AS A CHILD, SO I DON'T SEE HER WALKING AWAY. BUT WITH BLINDNESS CAME AN AMPLIFICATION OF MY REMAINING SENSES THAT OPENED UP A WORLD OF MULTI-SENSORY PERCEPTION.
SALE
THE FRAGRANCE IN THE AIR, THE TEMPERATURE, AND THE ENTIRE BAROMETRIC PRESSURE DROP IN HER ABSENCE.
THE SOFT PATTER OF HER FOOTSTEPS GROWS FAINT AS SHE TURNS THE CORNER AT A TV SHOP TWO BLOCKS AWAY. IT'S DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW HER OVER THE NOISE OF FIVE DIFFERENT CHANNELS...
EACH ONE COMPETING TO DESCRIBE ITS OWN PERSPECTIVE OF WILSON FISK'S PRESUMED DEATH.
THE SWING... IS STILL MOVING... WITH THE GHOST OF HER.
Biography
THE LARGER THAN LIFE LIFE OF WILSON FISK
TONIGHT ON A & E 'S BIOGRAPHY... THE TROUBLED LIFE OF ENTREPRENEUR WILSON FISK.
THE CHAIN SQUEAKS HER ECHO.
CHNK
I'M A.J. BENZA. TONIGHT ON MYSTERIES AND SCANDALS... WILSON FISK! CHARITABLE PHILANTHROPIST? OR KINGPIN OF CRIME?
CHNK
-- ON THIS WEEK'S COURT TV... WE SAW WILSON FISK CLEAR HIS NAME...
COURTTV
CHNK
...BUT DID WE ALSO SEE THE UNRAVELING OF ONE STAR LAWYER, FOGGY NELSON?
COURTTV
CHK


CHNK
FAP
CHNK
FAP
WITH THE KINGPIN GONE, THE OTHER CRIME FAMILIES WILL WANT TO FILL THE VACUUM.
I TURN OVER THE REST OF THE KINGPIN'S FILES TO FOGGY.
ALL THE DIRT... FROM COPS TO CARDINALS, TO THE OTHER FAMILIES, TO PRIVATE INDUSTRY, TO SENATORS.
SPECIAL ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOGGY NELSON TAKES IT TO COURT.

HE'S FANTASTIC. THOROUGH. HE DOESN'T LEAVE ANYTHING TO CHANCE.
HE GETS CONVICTION...
WHAP
AFTER CONVICTION...
FAP
AFTER CONVICTION...
8ft
FLASH
5ft
6ft
SO DO YOU TAKE OUR PLEA, OR DO I SHOW THE PHOTOS IN COURT?
DID YOU OR DID YOU NOT ACCEPT MONEY FROM--
AFTER CONVICTION...
FLASH
5ft
4ft
FAP
AFTER CONVICTION.
8ft
5ft
4ft
6ft


A MAJOR CLEANSING TAKES PLACE...
SPECIAL ASSISTANT D.A. FOGGY NELSON, CONTINUING HIS WINNING STREAK, HAS JUST CLOSED HIS TENTH CONVICTION!
JUST DOING MY JOB.
THE LIKES OF WHICH HAVE NEVER BEEN SEEN BEFORE.
IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT ALLEGATIONS AND MY SUBSEQUENT INDICTMENT, I WILL NOT BE RUNNING FOR REELECTION.
ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE A DEAL WITH NELSON?
NO COMMENT.
EVERY SUIT, IN WHOSE POCKET THE KINGPIN HAD HIS FINGERS, IS TAKEN TO THE CLEANERS.
EVEN OTHER MOBSTERS THAT THE KINGPIN HAD DIRT ON.
NO COMMENT.
NO COMMENT.
WHAP
AND THE KINGPIN ISN'T THERE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE VACUUM.
FAP
THE TEAM OF NELSON AND MURDOCK IS A HUGE SUCCESS. I SHOULD BE HAPPY.
THERE IS TALK THAT ACE LAWYER FOGGY NELSON SHOULD RUN FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY.
FAP
BUT I'M NOT.

YOU'VE BEEN BUSY. I'VE SEEN YOU IN THE PAPERS A LOT.
THAT'S MOSTLY BECAUSE OF FOGGY. HE'S RISEN TO THE CHALLENGE.
"I'VE BEEN BEHIND THE SCENES. KEEPING THE THUGS IN CHECK, WHILE HE IMPRISONS THEIR BOSSES."
IT SOUNDS LIKE CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION.
REMEMBER *ME?* I'M THE ***BLACK WIDOW,*** FORMER AVENGER, SOVIET SPY, AND YOUR CRIME-FIGHTER CONFIDANT. I'M YOUR *FRIEND.*
I'M SORRY, NATASHA, IF I'VE BEEN COLD TO YOU. I'VE JUST HAD A LOT ON MY MIND LATELY.
IT'S A *WOMAN,* ISN'T IT?

"IT'S SORT OF COMPLICATED."
I'LL BET. WITH YOU IT ALWAYS IS.
"I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE HOW ALL THE PIECES FIT TOGETHER."
OR WHY HER ANGER...
"...IS AIMED...
"...AT DAREDEVIL."

"I'M SURE THE KINGPIN TRIGGERED IT BEFORE HE DIED.
"SOMEHOW HE MADE HER THINK THAT DAREDEVIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HER FATHER'S DEATH.
"BUT NOW THAT IT'S IN MOTION..."
THK
THAT SOUND!
NATASHA!?
WE'RE PINNED DOWN!
A FLESCHETTE... SMELLS ACIDIC... POISON? I'VE GOT TO GET HER TO A HOSPITAL QUICK.
I HEAR THE SHOOTER DROP THE GUN. NOW IS MY CHANCE... WIND SHIFTS... I TRY TO CATCH THE SCENT... CLOSER NOW...

MAYA...

SHE GIVES ME A BRUCE LEE KICK, AND I ROLL WITH IT.
I'M NOT SO LUCKY WITH THE NEXT ONE.
I DON'T WANT TO HURT HER.
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO MAKE HER UNDERSTAND.
I HAVE TO GET NATASHA HELP A.S.A.P.
MATT? WHAT HAPPENED? EVERYTHING'S GETTING DARK.

THE DARK... I NEED TO USE IT TO MY ADVANTAGE.
KRESSHH
THE DARKNESS IS MEANINGLESS TO ME, BUT IT IS A BLINDFOLD TO MAYA.

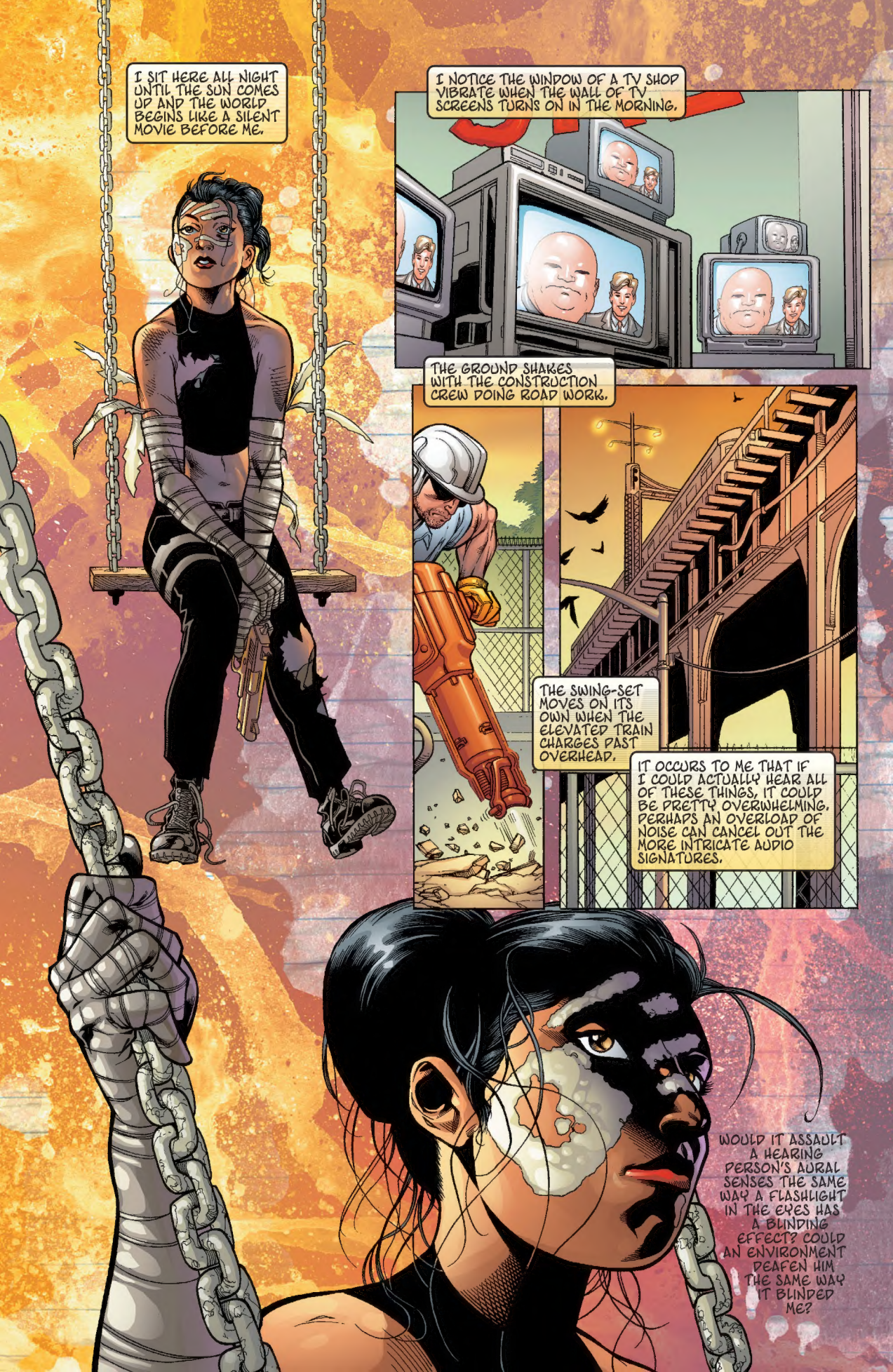
ECHO... MAYA... IS RIGHT BEHIND US...
BUT DEEP INSIDE THE CONDEMNED BUILDING... SHE IS BLIND IN THE DARKNESS.
DEAF AND BLIND.
WHILE I CAN HEAR EVERY MOVE SHE MAKES.
CREEAK
Click

BLAM BLAM
KRASH
BLAM BLAM BLAM
SHE'S SHOOTING WILDLY. A STRAY SHOT COULD HIT NATASHA.
WAP

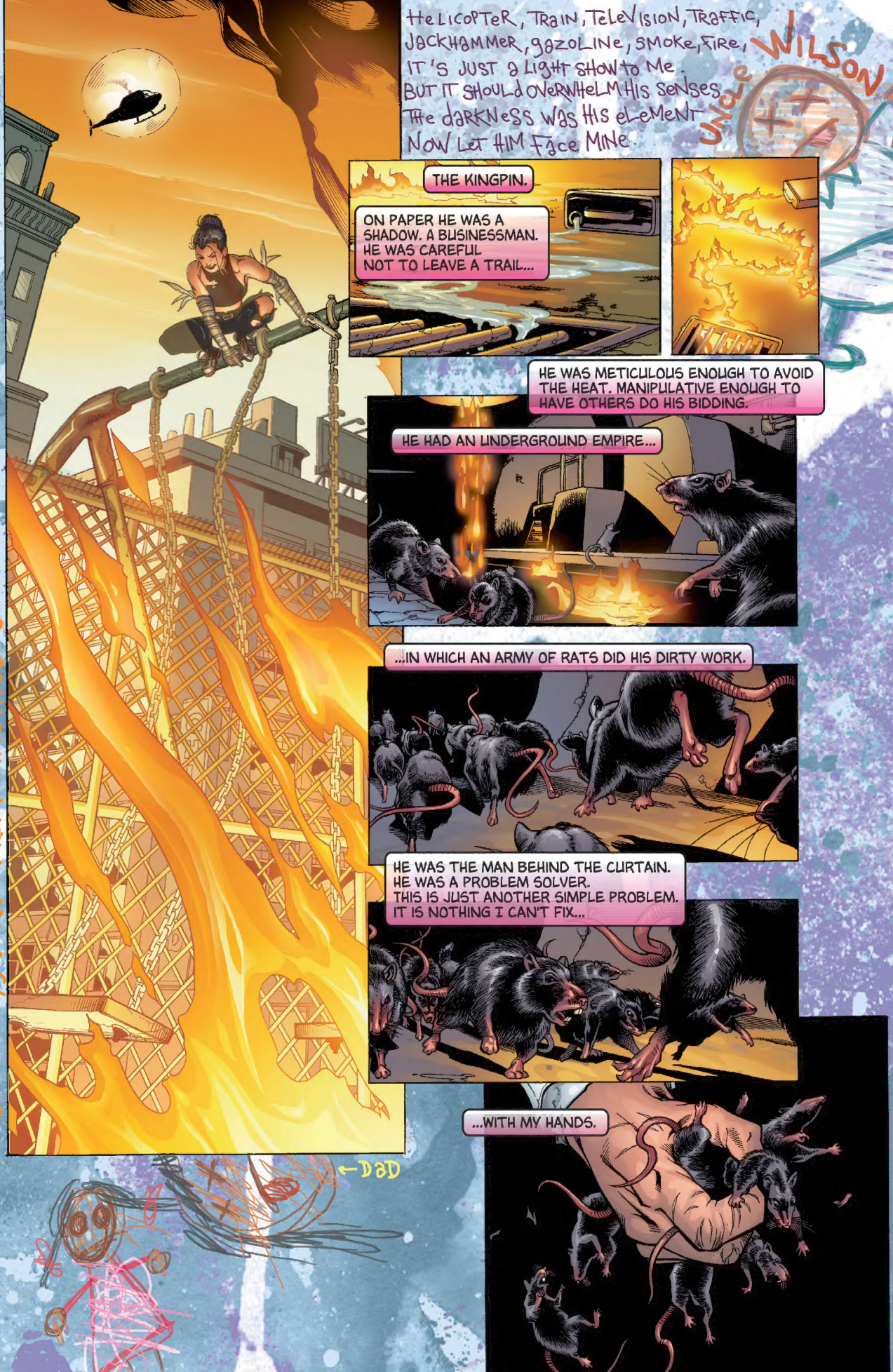
I GO FOR NERVE CENTERS.
IN THE DARK, SHE CAN'T SEE TO COPY MY MOVES, AND SHE MIGHT AS WELL BE IN SLOW MOTION.
BUT I STILL HAVE TO TAKE THE FIGHT OUT OF HER.
KRESH

KSSH!

CHNK
IT WAS DARK.
CHNK
COMPLETE BLACKNESS.
CHNK
AND HE BEAT ME LIKE HE KNEW EXACTLY WHERE I WAS.
I HAD NEVER FELT SO DEAF, SO ISOLATED, AS WHEN I WAS BLIND AS WELL.
CHNK
HIS HEARING. IT'S GOT TO BE HIS HEARING. THE DIMENSION OF SOUND ELUDES ME. THE REALM OF AUDIO MUST BE AS DESCRIPTIVE AS THE VISUAL WORLD. IT LET HIM PINPOINT MY EXACT POSITION.
WHEREAS, FOR ME, HE WAS A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK.


I SIT HERE ALL NIGHT UNTIL THE SUN COMES UP AND THE WORLD BEGINS LIKE A SILENT MOVIE BEFORE ME.
I NOTICE THE WINDOW OF A TV SHOP VIBRATE WHEN THE WALL OF TV SCREENS TURNS ON IN THE MORNING.
THE GROUND SHAKES WITH THE CONSTRUCTION CREW DOING ROAD WORK.
THE SWING-SET MOVES ON ITS OWN WHEN THE ELEVATED TRAIN CHARGES PAST OVERHEAD.
IT OCCURS TO ME THAT IF I COULD ACTUALLY HEAR ALL OF THESE THINGS, IT COULD BE PRETTY OVERWHELMING. PERHAPS AN OVERLOAD OF NOISE CAN CANCEL OUT THE MORE INTRICATE AUDIO SIGNATURES.
WOULD IT ASSAULT A HEARING PERSON'S AURAL SENSES THE SAME WAY A FLASHLIGHT IN THE EYES HAS A BLINDING EFFECT? COULD AN ENVIRONMENT DEAFEN HIM THE SAME WAY IT BLINDED ME?

THE BEST WAY TO FIND A NEEDLE IN THE HAYSTACK...
...IS TO BURN THE HAYSTACK.
"FORGET IT, MATT. I'M NOT GOING TO A HOSPITAL. IT WAS JUST A TRANQUILIZER DART."
ARE YOU SURE?
I'VE BEEN TRANKED ENOUGH TO KNOW. I'LL BE FINE, IF YOU LET ME SLEEP IT OFF.
THIS IS THE MORNING TRAFFIC REPORT WITH CHOPPER FOUR...
AND I SUGGEST YOU GET SOME SLEEP YOURSELF.
TRAFFIC IS LOCKED AT THE... WAIT A MINUTE... WE'VE JUST NOTICED A MYSTERIOUS FIRE...
...AT A PLAYGROUND...
MATT, IT'S...
...HER.


HELICOPTER, TRAIN, TELEVISION, TRAFFIC, JACKHAMMER, GAZOLINE, SMOKE, FIRE, IT'S JUST A LIGHT SHOW TO ME. BUT IT SHOULD OVERWHELM HIS SENSES THE DARKNESS WAS HIS ELEMENT NOW LET HIM FACE MINE.
SMOKE WILSON
THE KINGPIN.
ON PAPER HE WAS A SHADOW. A BUSINESSMAN. HE WAS CAREFUL NOT TO LEAVE A TRAIL...
HE WAS METICULOUS ENOUGH TO AVOID THE HEAT. MANIPULATIVE ENOUGH TO HAVE OTHERS DO HIS BIDDING.
HE HAD AN UNDERGROUND EMPIRE...
...IN WHICH AN ARMY OF RATS DID HIS DIRTY WORK.
HE WAS THE MAN BEHIND THE CURTAIN. HE WAS A PROBLEM SOLVER. THIS IS JUST ANOTHER SIMPLE PROBLEM. IT IS NOTHING I CAN'T FIX...
...WITH MY HANDS.
DAD

NOTHING I CAN'T FIX.